श्री संतोष बागड़ोदिया : सर, ये क्या चाहते हैं? .....(**व्यवधान**)...

श्री सभापति : माननीय सदस्य, महंगाई पर अभी चर्चा होगी, आप उस समय खूब बोलिएगा। ...(**व्यवधान**).... आप क्या चाहते हैं?....(**व्यवधान**)... सदन की कार्यवाही 12.00 बजे तक के लिए स्थागित की जाती हैं।

The House then adjourned at nine minutes past eleven of the clock.

The house re-assembled at one minute past twelve of the clock

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chairman

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Right to food for children

*521. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an All-India Convention was held recently in Hyderabad on 'Children's Right to Food' examining the role of the Integrated Child Development Scheme;

(b) whether the Convention has called for universalisation with quality of the ICDS and strengthening of the Anganwadi network; and

(c) the other salient findings of the Convention which are being considered by Government for early implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) (a) to (c) A Convention on 'Children's Right to Food' was reportedly organized in Hyderabad from 7th-9th April, 2006 by an organisation called M.V. Foundation. The Ministry of Women and Child Development was neither aware nor participated in the Convention. The recommendations of the Convention have also not been received from its organisers. However, as per the information downloaded from Internet, the Convention adopted, *inter-alia,* the following resolutions in relation to Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme:—

➔ Universalisation of ICDS with quality.

- ➔ Upgradation of infrastructure of facilities in Anganwadi Centres (WCDs), including pucca buildings, each AWC to have two Anganwadi Workers (AWWs), day care services in AWCs etc.
- ➔ Supply of cooked and nutritious meals to children using locally procured food and Take Home Ration (THR) for children below 3 years.
- ➔ Community participation in ICDS be encouraged.
- ➔ Mainstreaming of disabled and other marginalized children.
- ➔ Advocacy of breastfeeding.

Improvement is a continuous process. Government of India has taken several steps in the recent past to increase the effectiveness and impact of ICDS which include:—

- ➔ Expansion of the Scheme to 466 additional Projects and 1.88 lakh AWCs in 2005-06.
- ➔ Sharing 50% cost of Supplementary Nutrition with States from 2005-06.
- ➔ States have been instructed to ensure uninterrupted supply of supplementary nutrition as per norms of the Scheme.
- ➔ Increase in rent of AWCs.
- ➔ Construction of AWCs in NE States and World Bank assisted ICDS Projects.

Further improvements will be considered subject to availability of resources.

Expansion of school education system

†*522. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a continuous expansion of the school education system has been noticed since the last decade in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.